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CMB constraints on primordial non-Gaussianity from the bispectrum (f_{NL}) and trispectrum (g_{NL} and τ_{NL}) and a new consistency test of single-field inflation

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We outline the expected constraints on non-Gaussianity from the cosmic microwave background with current and future experiments, focusing on both the third (f_{NL}) and fourth-order (g_{NL} and τ_{NL}) amplitudes of the local configuration or non-Gaussianity. The experimental focus is the skewness (two-to-one) and kurtosis (two-to-two and three-to-one) power spectra from weighted maps. In addition to a measurement of τ_{NL} and g_{NL} with WMAP 5-year data, our study provides the first forecasts for future constraints on g_{NL} . We describe how these statistics can be corrected for the mask and cut-sky through a window function, bypassing the need to compute linear terms that were introduced for the previous-generation non-Gaussianity statistics, such as the skewness estimator. We discuss the ratio $A_{\text{NL}} = \tau_{\text{NL}}/(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ as an additional test of single-field inflationary models and discuss the physical significance of each statistic. Using these estimators with WMAP 5-Year V + W-band data out to $l_{\text{max}} = 600$ we constrain the cubic order non-Gaussianity parameters τ_{NL} , and g_{NL} and find $-7.4 < g_{\text{NL}}/10^5 < 8.2$ and $-0.6 < \tau_{\text{NL}}/10^4 < 3.3$ improving the previous COBE-based limit on $\tau_{\text{NL}} < 10^8$ nearly 4 orders of magnitude with WMAP.

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I. INTRODUCTION

We have now entered an exciting time in cosmological studies where we are now beginning to constrain simple slow-roll inflationary models with high precision observations of the cosmic microwave background (CMB) and large-scale structure. In addition to constraining inflationary model parameter space with traditional parameters such as the spectral index n_s and the tensor-to-scalar ratio r , we may soon be able to use parameters associated with primordial non-Gaussianity to improve model selection.

In the simplest realistic inflationary models, the field(s) responsible for inflation have minimal interactions. Such an interactionless situation should have led to Gaussian primordial curvature perturbations, assuming that perturbations in the inflaton field generates the curvature perturbation. In this case, the two point correlation function contains all the informations on these perturbations. If the early inflation field(s) have nontrivial interactions, higher-order correlation functions of the curvature perturbations will contain *connected* pieces encoding information about the primordial inflationary interactions. This is

analogous to the situation encountered in particle physics where correlation functions can be separated into unconnected and connected Feynman diagrams, the later containing information about the underlying interactions (see Fig. 1 for an example involving the four-point function). A detection of non-Gaussianity therefore gives an important window into the nature of the inflation field(s) and their interactions.

To parameterize the non-Gaussianity of a nearly Gaussian field, such as the primordial curvature perturbations $\zeta(\mathbf{x})$, we can expand them perturbatively [1] to sec-

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \langle \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3 \phi_4 \rangle = \\
 & \begin{array}{c} \phi_1 \text{ --- } \phi_3 \\ \phi_2 \text{ --- } \phi_4 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{More} \\ \text{Unconnected} \\ \text{Contributions} \end{array} + \\
 & \begin{array}{c} \phi_1 \text{ --- } \phi_3 \\ \phi_2 \text{ --- } \phi_4 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{More} \\ \text{Connected} \\ \text{Contributions} \end{array} \\
 & = \langle \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3 \phi_4 \rangle_G + \langle \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3 \phi_4 \rangle_c
 \end{aligned}$$

FIG. 1. Four-point correlation function for the ϕ^3 theory. The correlation functions breaks up into interactionless unconnected diagrams and connected diagrams containing information about the interactions.

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ond order as:

$$\zeta(\mathbf{x}) = \zeta_g(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{3}{5}f_{\text{NL}}[\zeta_g^2(\mathbf{x}) - \langle \zeta_g^2(\mathbf{x}) \rangle] + \frac{9}{25}g_{\text{NL}}\zeta_g^3(\mathbf{x}), \quad (1)$$

where $\zeta_g(\mathbf{x})$ is the purely Gaussian part with f_{NL} and g_{NL} parametrizing the first and second-order deviations from Gaussianity. This parameterization of the curvature perturbations is known as the local model as this definition is local in space.

Much effort has already gone into measuring non-Gaussianity at first-order in curvature perturbations using the bispectrum of the CMB anisotropies or large-scale structure galaxy distribution parametrized by f_{NL} (see Eq. (1)). These studies have found f_{NL} to be consistent with zero [2–5]. However, there is hope that a significant detection may be possible by future surveys that will lead to improved errors [6].

In the trispectrum, two parameters of second-order non-Gaussianity at fourth-order in curvature perturbations, τ_{NL} and g_{NL} , can be measured. In this paper we also introduce a third parameter, A_{NL} is an additional parameter that compares τ_{NL} of the trispectrum to $(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ from the bispectrum as a ratio:

$$A_{\text{NL}} = \frac{\tau_{\text{NL}}}{(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2}. \quad (2)$$

This ratio can be quite different for many inflationary models [7,8] and, as will be shown below, $A_{\text{NL}} \neq 1$ rules out single-field inflationary models altogether, including the standard curvaton scenario (which neglects perturbations from the inflaton field).

In this paper we discuss the skewness and kurtosis power spectra method for probing primordial non-Gaussianity and give constraints for the first (f_{NL}) and second-order (g_{NL} and τ_{NL}) amplitudes of the local model in addition to their ratio A_{NL} . Using the bispectrum of CMB anisotropies as seen by WMAP 5-year data, Smidt *et al.* (2009) found $-36.4 < f_{\text{NL}} < 58.4$ at 95% confidence [5]. This is to be compared with the most recent WMAP 7 measurement of $-10 < f_{\text{NL}} < 74$ [4], where part of the discrepancy is due to a difference in optimization [9]. As outlined in Sec. VI, using the trispectrum of the same data we find that $-0.6 < \tau_{\text{NL}}/10^4 < 3.3$ and $-7.4 < g_{\text{NL}}/10^5 < 8.2$ at 95% confidence level showing second-order non-Gaussianity is consistent with zero in WMAP. This paper serves as a guide to the analysis process behind our derived limits on τ_{NL} , g_{NL} , and A_{NL} .

Furthermore, in this paper we analyze what to realistically expect when measuring non-Gaussianity from CMB temperature data. We believe establishing what constraints can be placed upon f_{NL} , τ_{NL} , g_{NL} and A_{NL} by future experiments is important in determining what models may and may not be tested by future data. We also high-

light several advantages of our work, including ways to correct the cut-sky and mask through a window function without using linear terms which are computationally prohibitive [10,11].

This paper is organized as follows: In Sec. II we review how non-Gaussianity may be used to distinguish between common inflationary models and stress the physical significance of each statistic. In Sec. III we describe the skewness and kurtosis power spectra and explain how they may be used to extract information about primordial non-Gaussianity from the CMB. In Sec. IV, we describe the signal-to-noise of each estimator, how to add the experimental beam and noise to these calculations and discuss why these power spectra have the advantage for dealing with a cut sky. In Sec. V we calculate the fisher bounds for upcoming experiments for each statistic. In Sec. VI we discuss the technical details for measuring non-Gaussianity in the trispectrum and in Sec. VII we conclude with a discussion.

II. NON-GAUSSIANITY FROM COMMON INFLATIONARY MODELS

Non-Gaussianity is a powerful tool that may be used to distinguish between inflationary models. The simplest models do not produce a detectable amount of non-Gaussianity. Maldacena [12] has shown that a single-field, experiencing slow roll with canonical kinetic energy and an initial Bunch-Davies vacuum state produces

$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{5}{12}(n_s + f(k)n_t). \quad (3)$$

Here n_s and n_t are the scalar and tensor spectral indices, respectively. The function $f(k)$ has a range $0 \leq f(k) \leq \frac{5}{6}$ based on the triangle shapes (see below) of the k_i such that $f = 0$ in the squeezed limit and $f = \frac{5}{6}$ for an equilateral triangle. For this reason, $f_{\text{NL}} < 1$ will remain undetectable in the simple slow-roll scenario with CMB data alone. If any of the above assumptions are violated, very specific types of non-Gaussianity are produced [6,13,14]. In the bispectrum $B_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3)$ defined by

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_1} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_2} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}_3} \rangle = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) B_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3), \quad (4)$$

where ζ is the primordial curvature perturbation, non-Gaussianities show up as triangles in Fourier space. Different triangle shapes are produced by different underlying physics, for example:

- (i) *squeezed triangle* ($k_1 \sim k_2 \gg k_3$) This is the dominating shape from multifield, curvaton, inhomogeneous reheating and Ekpyrotic models.
- (ii) *equilateral triangle* ($k_1 = k_2 = k_3$) This shape is produced by noncanonical kinetic energy with higher derivative interactions and nontrivial speeds of sound.
- (iii) *folded triangle* ($k_1 = 2k_2 = 2k_3$) These triangles are produced by non-adiabatic-vacuum models.

Additionally, linear combinations of the above shapes or intermediate cases such as *elongated triangles* ($k_1 = k_2 + k_3$) and *isosceles triangles* ($k_1 > k_2 = k_3$) are possible [6,13,14]. The most recent WMAP 7 constraints on the amount of non-Gaussianity from each shape is $-10 < f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{local}} < 74$, $-214 < f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{equil}} < 266$ and $-410 < f_{\text{NL}}^{\text{orthog}} < 6$ at 95% confidence [4].

A convenient way to distinguish between shapes is to introduce the shape function defined as

$$S(k_1, k_2, k_3) \equiv \frac{1}{N} (k_1 k_2 k_3)^2 B_{\zeta}(k_1, k_2, k_3), \quad (5)$$

where N is a normalization factor often taken to be $1/f_{\text{NL}}$. Using a notation introduced by Fergusson and Shellard [15], we can give the shape function for the more common configurations as:

$$S^{\text{local}}(k_1, k_2, k_3) \propto \frac{K_3}{K_{111}}, \quad (6)$$

$$S^{\text{equil}}(k_1, k_2, k_3) \propto \frac{\tilde{k}_1 \tilde{k}_2 \tilde{k}_3}{K_{111}}, \quad (7)$$

$$S^{\text{folded}}(k_1, k_2, k_3) \propto \frac{1}{K_{111}} (K_{12} - K_3) + 4 \frac{K_2}{\tilde{k}_1 \tilde{k}_2 \tilde{k}_3}, \quad (8)$$

where

$$K_p = \sum_i (k_i)^p \quad \text{with} \quad K = K_1, \quad (9)$$

$$K_{pq} = \frac{1}{\Delta_{pq}} \sum_{i \neq j} (k_i)^p (k_j)^q, \quad (10)$$

$$K_{pqr} = \frac{1}{\Delta_{pqr}} \sum_{i \neq j \neq l} (k_i)^p (k_j)^q (k_l)^r, \quad (11)$$

$$\tilde{k}_{ip} = K_p - 2(k_i)^p \quad \text{with} \quad \tilde{k}_i = \tilde{k}_{i1}, \quad (12)$$

with $\Delta_{pq} = 1 + \delta_{pq}$ and $\Delta_{pqr} = \Delta_{pq}(\Delta_{qr} + \delta_{pr})$ (no summation). Plots for the local and equilateral shapes are given in Fig. 2.

In addition to f_{NL} being generated by different shapes, it also may vary with scale. Recently, a new parameter has been introduced to measure this scale dependence defined as:

$$n_{f_{\text{NL}}}(k) = \frac{d \ln |f_{\text{NL}}(k)|}{d \ln k}. \quad (13)$$

This scale dependence has the ability to test the ansatz (1) to test whether the local model should allow for f_{NL} to vary with scale [16]. Using the results of Smidt *et al.* (2009) (Fig. 16 of Ref. [5]) and assuming

$$f_{\text{NL}}(l) = f_{\text{NL}200} \left(\frac{l}{l_{200}} \right)^{n_{f_{\text{NL}}}(l)}, \quad (14)$$

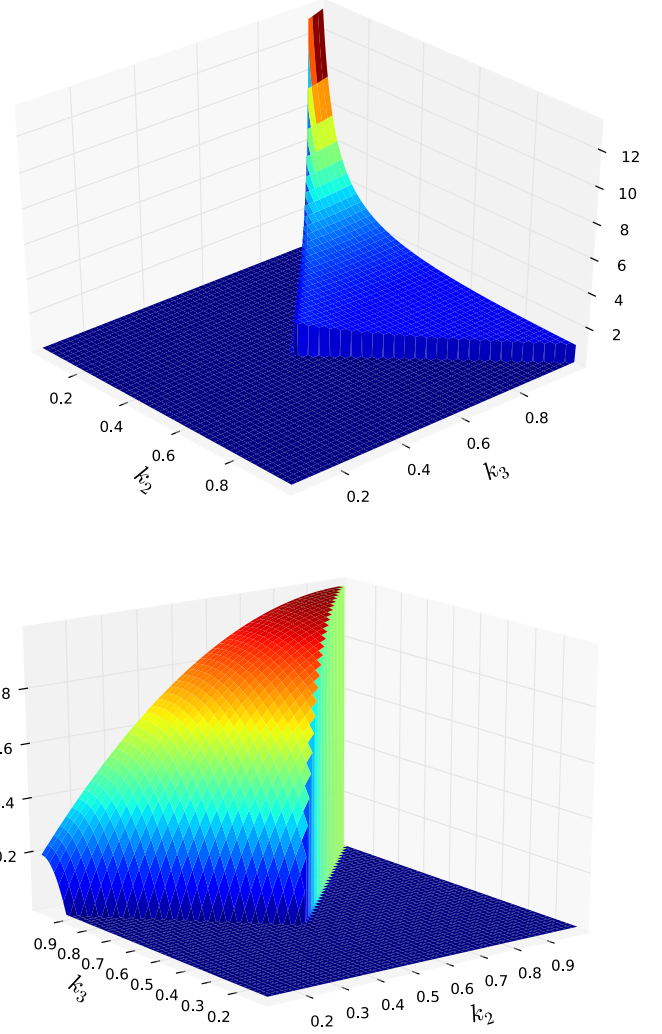


FIG. 2 (color online). Plot of the shape functions $S^{\text{local}}(1, k_2, k_3)$ and $S^{\text{equil}}(1, k_2, k_3)$ normalized such that $S(1, 1, 1) = 1$. In these plots only values satisfying the triangle inequality $k_2 + k_3 \geq k_1 = 1$ as well as the requirement $k_2 \leq k_3$ to prevent showing equivalent configurations are nonzero. The plot on top verifies S^{local} is maximized when $k_1 \sim k_3 \gg k_2$ whereas the bottom plot verifies S^{equil} is maximized when $k_1 \sim k_2 \sim k_3$.

we can constrain $n_{f_{\text{NL}}}(l)$ to roughly $-2.5 < n_{f_{\text{NL}}}(l) < 2.3$ at 95% confidence. We therefore find f_{NL} is consistent with having no scale dependence.

In this paper we focus on the local model that probes non-Gaussianity of a squeezed shape. As mentioned above, simple inflationary models can not produce a detectable amount of non-Gaussianity for local models. We now review the prediction for local non-Gaussianity for the most common models.

A. Review of the δN formalism

The curvature perturbation can be conveniently described using the δN formalism [17–21]. During inflation,

spacetime expands by a certain number of e-folds N . By Heisenberg's uncertainty principle, expansion for each point in space ends at slightly different times producing a spatially dependent total e-fold:

$$N(x) = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} H(x, t) dt, \quad (15)$$

where $H(x, t)$ is the Hubble parameter allowing us to define $N(x) = \bar{N} + \delta N(x)$. The fluctuations in e-fold about the mean value \bar{N} , which correspond to perturbations in local expansion, are the curvature perturbations $\zeta = \delta N$.

In addition to a spatial parameterization, we may parameterize the number of e-folds by the underlying fields $\zeta = N(\phi^A) - \bar{N}$ where ϕ^A represents the initial values for the scalar fields. If we write out the fields as $\phi^A = \bar{\phi}^A + \delta\phi^A$ we can expand the curvature perturbations as

$$\zeta = \delta N = \sum_n \frac{1}{n!} N_{A_1 A_2 \dots A_n} \delta\phi^{A_1} \delta\phi^{A_2} \dots \delta\phi^{A_n}. \quad (16)$$

The N_x means the derivative of N with respect to the fields x . For example, $N_{A_1 A_2} \equiv \frac{\partial^2 N}{\partial\phi^{A_1} \partial\phi^{A_2}}$. In this equation there is an implicit sum over the A_i . Einstein summation is implicit in all equations relating to the δN formalism.

Using this formalism we may compute to first order from $\zeta = N_A \delta\phi^A$:

$$\langle \zeta_{\mathbf{k}} \zeta_{\mathbf{k}'} \rangle = N_A N_B C^{AB}(k) (2\pi)^3 \delta^3(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}'), \quad (17)$$

where $C^{AB}(k)$ in the slow-roll limit becomes to leading order $\delta^{AB} P(k)$.

Likewise, we can calculate the bispectrum and trispectrum in this formalism;

$$B_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3) = N_A N_B N_C [C^{AB}(k_1) C^{CD}(k_2) + C^{AB}(k_1) C^{BD}(k_2) + C^{AB}(k_1) C^{CD}(k_3)], \quad (18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4) = & N_{A_1 A_2} N_{B_1 B_2} N_C N_D [C^{A_2 B_2}(k_{13}) C^{A_1 C}(k_2) C^{B_1 D}(k_2) + (11 \text{ perms})] \\ & + N_{A_1 A_2 A_3} N_B N_C N_D [C^{A_1 B}(k_{13}) C^{A_2 C}(k_2) C^{A_3 D}(k_2) + (3 \text{ perms})], \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where $k_{ij} = |\mathbf{k}_i + \mathbf{k}_j|$. In the slow-roll limit to leading order these expressions may be rewritten as:

$$B_\zeta(k_1, k_2, k_3) = \frac{6}{5} f_{\text{NL}} [P_\zeta(k_1) P_\zeta(k_2) + P_\zeta(k_2) P_\zeta(k_3) + P_\zeta(k_3) P_\zeta(k_1)], \quad (20)$$

$$T(k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4) = \tau_{\text{NL}} [P_\zeta(k_{13}) P_\zeta(k_3) P_\zeta(k_4) + (11 \text{ perms})] + \frac{54}{25} g_{\text{NL}} [P_\zeta(k_2) P_\zeta(k_3) P_\zeta(k_4) + (3 \text{ perms})], \quad (21)$$

where $P_\zeta(k) = N_A N_B C^{AB}(k)$ and therefore in the slow-roll limit $P_\zeta(k) = N_A N^A P(k)$.

From the above two expressions we can read off the values for each statistic:

$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{5}{6} \frac{N_A N_B N^{AB}}{(N_C N^C)^2}; \quad (22)$$

$$\tau_{\text{NL}} = \frac{N_{AB} N^{AC} N^B N_C}{(N_D N^D)^3}; \quad (23)$$

$$g_{\text{NL}} = \frac{25}{54} \frac{N_{ABC} N^A N^B N^C}{(N_D N^D)^3}; \quad (24)$$

$$A_{\text{NL}} = \frac{\tau_{\text{NL}}}{(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2}. \quad (25)$$

B. General single-field models

For a single scalar field φ perturbing $N(\varphi)$ we may expand ζ , using the above formalism [19], as:

$$\zeta = N' \delta\varphi + \frac{1}{2} N'' \delta\varphi^2 + \frac{1}{6} N''' \delta\varphi^3 + \dots, \quad (26)$$

where $N' = dN/d\varphi$. Note that we do not require that φ is

the inflaton field, it could be the curvaton or a field which modulates the efficiency of reheating. From Eqs. (22)–(24) we may immediately read off

$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{5}{6} \frac{N''}{(N')^2}; \quad (27)$$

$$\tau_{\text{NL}} = \frac{(N'')^2}{(N')^4}; \quad (28)$$

$$g_{\text{NL}} = \frac{25}{54} \frac{N'''}{(N')^3}; \quad (29)$$

$$A_{\text{NL}} = 1. \quad (30)$$

Equations (27) and (28) yield a very important consequence of single-field models namely $\tau_{\text{NL}} = (6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$. This is a general result and therefore $A_{\text{NL}} \neq 1$ may be used to rule out single-field models all together.

C. Multi-Field inflationary models

Suyama and Yamaguchi showed in general $\tau_{\text{NL}} \geq (6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ by the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality and equality only holds if N_A is an eigenmode of N_{AB} [21]. Models

where equality does not hold can not be those of a single-field. We now examine such models.

Unlike the single-field case, using the δN formalism to make general statements about multifield models is nearly impossible. Instead, one is forced to work with specific models that utilize simplifying assumptions. We now present a class of multifield models that we believe is sufficiently general to uncover many details that are characteristic of multifield models in general.

Recently, Byrnes and Choi reviewed two field models with scalar fields φ and χ that have a separable potential $W(\varphi, \chi) = U(\varphi)V(\chi)$ [7,22–25]. The slow-roll parameters for these models are:

$$\epsilon_\varphi = \frac{M_p^2}{2} \left(\frac{U_{,\varphi}}{U} \right)^2, \quad \epsilon_\chi = \frac{M_p^2}{2} \left(\frac{V_{,\chi}}{V} \right)^2, \quad (31)$$

$$\eta_{\varphi\varphi} = M_p^2 \frac{U_{,\varphi\varphi}}{U}, \quad \eta_{\varphi\chi} = M_p^2 \frac{U_{,\varphi} V_{,\chi}}{W}, \quad (32)$$

$$\eta_{\chi\chi} = M_p^2 \frac{V_{,\chi\chi}}{V},$$

from which we can define

$$\tilde{r} = \frac{\epsilon_\chi}{\epsilon_\varphi} e^{2(\eta_{\varphi\varphi} - \eta_{\chi\chi})N}. \quad (33)$$

For this class of models, in the regions where $|f_{\text{NL}}| > 1$ we have

$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{5}{6} \eta_{\chi\chi} \frac{\tilde{r}}{(1 + \tilde{r})^2} e^{2(\eta_{\varphi\varphi} - \eta_{\chi\chi})N}; \quad (34)$$

$$g_{\text{NL}} = \frac{10}{3} \frac{\tilde{r}(\eta_{\varphi\varphi} - 2\eta_{\chi\chi}) - \eta_{\chi\chi}}{1 + \tilde{r}} f_{\text{NL}}; \quad (35)$$

$$\tau_{\text{NL}} = \frac{1 + \tilde{r}}{\tilde{r}} \left(\frac{6f_{\text{NL}}}{5} \right)^2; \quad (36)$$

$$A_{\text{NL}} = \frac{1 + \tilde{r}}{\tilde{r}}. \quad (37)$$

It is worth noting that both τ_{NL} and g_{NL} are related to f_{NL} for this class of models. Here we have $|g_{\text{NL}}| < |f_{\text{NL}}|$ which will therefore be much harder to detect. On the contrary, $\tau_{\text{NL}} > (6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ so that non-Gaussianity may in fact be easier to detect in the trispectrum than the bispectrum for some multifield models. Here we find $A_{\text{NL}} = (1 + \tilde{r})/\tilde{r} > 1$. The scale dependence of f_{NL} has also been worked out for this class of models and was found to be $n_{f_{\text{NL}}} = -4(\eta_{\varphi\varphi} - \eta_{\chi\chi})/(1 + \tilde{r}) < 0$.

D. Curvaton models

In the curvaton scenario, a weakly interacting scalar field χ exists in conjunction to the inflaton φ [7,19,26–29]. During inflation, the curvaton field is subdominant, but after inflation χ can dominate the energy density. The

decay of the inhomogeneous curvature field in this scenario produces the curvature perturbations and not the inflaton.

If such a curvaton field is the sole contributor to curvature perturbations, we can write out the perturbations using the δN formalism as we did in the single-field case:

$$\zeta = N' \delta\chi + \frac{1}{2} N'' \delta\chi^2 + \frac{1}{6} N''' \delta\chi^3 + \dots, \quad (38)$$

where now $N' = dN/d\chi$. Immediately we recover the relations (27)–(29) and find for such curvaton models $A_{\text{NL}} = 1$ as should be expected from curvature perturbations generated by a single-field.

Recently, curvaton models with generic potentials of the form

$$V = \frac{1}{2} m^2 \chi^2 + \lambda \chi^{n+4}, \quad (39)$$

have been analyzed [28,29]. Here m is the curvaton's mass and λ is a coupling constant. For such models N in Eq. (38) has been worked out giving:

$$f_{\text{NL}} = \frac{5}{4r_\chi} (1 + h) - \frac{5}{3} - \frac{5r_\chi}{6}, \quad (40)$$

$$g_{\text{NL}} = \frac{25}{54} \left[\frac{9}{4r_\chi^2} (\tilde{h} + 3h) - \frac{9}{r_\chi} (1 + h) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - 9h) + 10r_\chi + 3r_\chi^2 \right], \quad (41)$$

where

$$r_\chi = \frac{3\Omega_{\chi,D}}{4 - \Omega_{\chi,D}}, \quad h = \frac{\chi_0 \chi_0''}{\chi_0'^2}, \quad \tilde{h} = \frac{\chi_0^2 \chi_0'''}{\chi_0'^3}. \quad (42)$$

Here $\Omega_{\chi,D}$ is the energy density at time of curvaton decay, χ_0 is the curvaton field during oscillations just before decay and the primes here denote derivatives with respect to time.

Unlike single scalar field inflation, curvaton models can have large self-interactions. Enqvist *et al.* pointed out that even if f_{NL} is small, g_{NL} can be large for significant levels of self-interactions [29]. This places a physical significance on g_{NL} that can be thought of as parametrizing large self-interactions.

E. Brief summary

In this section we have discussed the physical significance of each statistic f_{NL} , g_{NL} , τ_{NL} and A_{NL} . In the bispectrum, f_{NL} receives contributions from different shaped triangles in Fourier space related to different underlying physics. By analyzing the amount of non-Gaussianity from these different shapes we can distinguish between models with multiple fields, noncanonical kinetic energy and nonadiabatic vacuums.

In addition, we stressed the physical significance of local non-Gaussianity in the trispectrum. The relation $A_{\text{NL}} = \tau_{\text{NL}}/(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ is an important constraint of multifield

models. A general result for single-field models is $A_{\text{NL}} = 1$. Lastly, g_{NL} will place important constraints on the level of self-interactions.

III. POWER SPECTRA ESTIMATORS FOR FIRST AND SECOND-ORDER NON-GAUSSIANITY

We would like to find a way to measure the non-Gaussianity of these fields from something directly observable. Fortunately, information about the curvature perturbations are contained within the CMB through the spherical harmonic coefficients of the temperature anisotropies:

$$a_{lm} = 4\pi(-i)^l \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \Phi(\mathbf{k}) g_{Tl}(k) Y_l^{m*}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}), \quad (43)$$

$$\theta(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) = \frac{\delta T}{T}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) = \sum_{lm} a_{lm} Y_l^m(\hat{\mathbf{n}}), \quad (44)$$

where $\Phi(\mathbf{k})$ are the primordial curvature perturbations, g_{Tl} is the radiation transfer function that gives the angular power spectrum $C_l = (2/\pi) \int k^2 dk P_\Phi(k) g_{Tl}^2(k)$, θ is the field of temperature fluctuations in the CMB and Y_l^m 's are the spherical harmonics. (In this equation, the curvature perturbation Φ is related to ζ through the relation $\Phi = (3/5)\zeta$.)

If the curvature perturbations are purely Gaussian, all the statistical information we can say about them is contained in the two point correlation function $\langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \rangle$. The information contained in the two point function is usually extracted in spherical harmonic space, leading to the power spectrum C_l , defined by:

$$C_l = \langle a_{lm} a_{lm}^* \rangle = \frac{1}{(2l+1)} \sum_m a_{lm} a_{lm}^*. \quad (45)$$

However, if the curvature perturbations are slightly non-Gaussian, this two point function is no longer sufficient to articulate all the information contained in the field. With non-Gaussianity, extra information can be extracted from the three, four and higher n -point correlation functions [6].

We now discuss estimators that can be used to measure non-Gaussianity at first and second order corresponding to the third and fourth-order in curvature perturbations, respectively.

A. Skewness power spectrum estimator for the bispectrum

In order to detect Gaussianity at first order, we must turn to the three point correlation function of the primordial curvature perturbations $\langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \Phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \Phi(\mathbf{x}_3) \rangle$. As mentioned above, we can extract information from the curvature perturbations by analyzing the a_{lm} s of the CMB. The three point correlation function of the a_{lm} s is called the bispectrum can be decomposed as follows [30]:

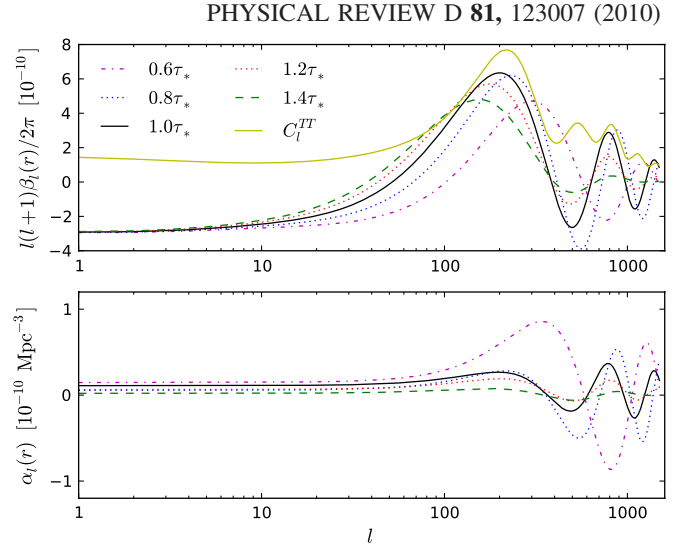


FIG. 3 (color online). The top plot compares various $\beta(r)$ for different τ_* and the bottom is the same for $\alpha(r)$.

$$\langle a_{lm} a_{l'm'} a_{l''m''} \rangle = B_{ll'l''} \begin{pmatrix} l & l' & l'' \\ m & m' & m'' \end{pmatrix}. \quad (46)$$

where

$$B_{ll'l''} \equiv \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(2l'+1)(2l''+1)}{4\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} l & l' & l'' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} b_{ll'l''}. \quad (47)$$

Here the symbols in parenthesis are called the Wigner-3j symbols and enforce rotational invariance of the CMB, as well as ensuring the proper triangle equality holds between l , l' and l'' namely: $|l_i - l_j| \leq l_k \leq |l_i + l_j|$ for any combination of i, j and k . For more information on the Wigner 3j symbols, the reader is directed to the appendix of Ref. [30].

The quantity $b_{ll'l''}$, known as the reduced bispectrum, encases all the other information in the bispectrum and for the local model can be computed analytically as:

$$b_{l_1 l_2 l_3} = 2f_{\text{NL}} \int r^2 dr [\alpha_{l_1}(r) \beta_{l_2}(r) \beta_{l_3}(r) + \text{cyc.perm.}], \quad (48)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_l(r) &\equiv \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty k^2 dk g_{Tl}(k) j_l(kr), \\ \beta_l(r) &\equiv \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty k^2 dk P_\Phi(k) g_{Tl}(k) j_l(kr). \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Here, $P_\Phi(k) \propto k^{n_s-4}$ is the primordial power spectrum of curvature perturbations, $g_{Tl}(k)$ is defined above, $j_l(kr)$ are the spherical Bessel functions and r parameterizes the line of sight.

Traditionally, the non-Gaussianity parameter f_{NL} is given as a single number where the information from all

the triangles configurations are collapsed into a single number called skewness (S_3) defined as

$$S_3 \equiv \int r^2 dr \int d\hat{n} A(r, \hat{n}) B^2(r, \hat{n}). \quad (50)$$

where $A(r, \hat{n})$ and $B(r, \hat{n})$, are defined below in Eqs. (51) and (52). Recently, new techniques have been developed to measure f_{NL} from a power spectrum called the skewness power spectrum [31,32]. These new estimators based on the analysis of power spectra are equivalent to S_3 in the limit of homogeneous noise [4] but have certain advantages discussed at the bottom of this subsection. These advantages include the ability to separate foregrounds and other secondary non-Gaussian signals and the ability to correct for the cut-sky without having to compute so-called linear terms.

To extract the skewness power spectrum from data we must begin with temperature maps optimally weighted for the detection of non-Gaussianity following [33]:

$$A(r, \hat{n}) \equiv \sum_{lm} Y_{lm}(\hat{n}) A_{lm}(r); \quad A_{lm}(r) \equiv \frac{\alpha_l(r)}{C_l} b_l a_{lm}, \quad (51)$$

$$B(r, \hat{n}) \equiv \sum_{lm} Y_{lm}(\hat{n}) B_{lm}(r); \quad B_{lm}(r) \equiv \frac{\beta_l(r)}{C_l} b_l a_{lm}. \quad (52)$$

Here $C_l \equiv C_l b_l^2 + N_l$ where b_l and N_l are the beam transfer functions and noise power spectrum, respectively, as described below in Sec. IV B and C_l is the usual two point correlation function defined above in Eq. (45).

From the two above weighted maps we can create two unique 2–1 power spectra, each of which contribute to the full $C_l^{(2,1)}$ estimator defined as:

$$C_l^{A,B^2} \equiv \int r^2 dr C_l^{A,B^2}(r), \quad (53)$$

$$C_l^{AB,B} \equiv \int r^2 dr C_l^{AB,B}(r), \quad (54)$$

where

$$C_l^{A,B^2}(r) = \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_m \text{Real}\{A_{lm}(r) B_{lm}^{(2)}(r)\}; \quad (55)$$

$$C_l^{AB,B}(r) = \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_m \text{Real}\{(AB)_{lm}(r) B_{lm}(r)\}. \quad (56)$$

It should make sense that the integrals with respect to the line of sight are needed since the final power spectra must only be an l dependent quantity.

In the above equations, the *squared* multipole moments are defined in relation to the squared optimized tempera-

ture maps as:

$$B(r, \hat{n})^2 = \sum_{lm} B_{lm}^{(2)}(r) Y_l^{m*}(\hat{n}); \quad (57)$$

$$A(r, \hat{n}) B(r, \hat{n}) = \sum_{lm} (AB)_{lm}(r) Y_l^{m*}(\hat{n}). \quad (58)$$

Combining the two unique contributions from Eqs. (53) and (54) gives us our full skewness power spectrum estimator:

$$C_l^{(2,1)} \equiv (C_l^{A,B^2} + 2C_l^{AB,B}). \quad (59)$$

Once $C_l^{(2,1)}$ has been extracted from data, we can compute the amount of non-Gaussianity found therein by relating this estimator to its analytical expression for a model with $f_{\text{NL}} = 1$ that turns out to be:

$$C_l^{(2,1)} = \frac{f_{\text{NL}}}{(2l+1)} \sum_{l'} \sum_{l''} \left\{ \frac{B_{ll'l''}}{C_l C_{l'} C_{l''}} \right\}. \quad (60)$$

Here, C_l is the weighted two point power spectrum defined below Eq. (52), $\hat{B}_{ll'l''}$ is the full bispectrum and $B_{ll'l''}$ is the local model with $f_{\text{NL}} = 1$ calculated from Eqs. (47) and (48).

Measuring non-Gaussianity using a power spectrum has a few advantages related to the fact that all information is not squeezed into a single number. First, different physics that contribute to the bispectrum, such as point sources and secondaries, can be directly accounted for and measured using curve fitting techniques utilizing each quantities 2–1 spectrum and fitting all parameters simultaneously as was done recently in Smidt *et al.* 2009 [5]. Second, each statistic can be tested for scale dependence with ease. This was also done in [5] where it was found that f_{NL} is consistent with zero for all l . Third, effects due to the cut sky can be removed easily without needing to calculate linear terms needed with S_3 . We discuss this later issue in Sec. IV C. Lastly, for the trispectrum analysis discussed below, both second-order statistics τ_{NL} and g_{NL} can be calculated simultaneously using the two kurtosis spectra.

B. Kurtosis power spectrum estimators for the trispectrum

In order to extract non-Gaussianity at second order we must consider the trispectrum or four-point function of temperature anisotropies which conveniently breaks into a Gaussian and non-Gaussian or connected piece [34]:

$$\langle a_{l_1 m_1} a_{l_2 m_2} a_{l_3 m_3} a_{l_4 m_4} \rangle = \langle a_{l_1 m_1} a_{l_2 m_2} a_{l_3 m_3} a_{l_4 m_4} \rangle_G + \langle a_{l_1 m_1} a_{l_2 m_2} a_{l_3 m_3} a_{l_4 m_4} \rangle_c. \quad (61)$$

where the connected and unconnected part of the trispectrum can be expanded as:

$$\langle a_{l_1 m_1} a_{l_2 m_2} a_{l_3 m_3} a_{l_4 m_4} \rangle_G = \sum_{LM} (-1)^M G_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(L) \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & L \\ m_1 & m_2 & M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_3 & l_4 & L \\ m_3 & m_4 & -M \end{pmatrix}, \quad (62)$$

$$\langle a_{l_1 m_1} a_{l_2 m_2} a_{l_3 m_3} a_{l_4 m_4} \rangle_c = \sum_{LM} (-1)^M T_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(L) \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & L \\ m_1 & m_2 & M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} l_3 & l_4 & L \\ m_3 & m_4 & -M \end{pmatrix}, \quad (63)$$

where we can solve for $G_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(L)$ and $T_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(L)$ analytically as:

$$T_{l_3 l_4}^{l_1 l_2}(L) = (5/3)^2 \tau_{\text{NL}} h_{l_1 l_2 L} h_{l_3 l_4 L} \times \int r_1^2 dr_1 r_2^2 dr_2 F_L(r_1, r_2) \alpha_{l_1}(r_1) \beta_{l_2}(r_1) \alpha_{l_3}(r_2) \beta_{l_4}(r_2) + g_{\text{NL}} h_{l_1 l_2 L} h_{l_3 l_4 L} \times \int r^2 dr \beta_{l_2}(r) \beta_{l_4}(r) [\mu_{l_1}(r) \beta_{l_3}(r) + \mu_{l_3}(r) \beta_{l_1}(r)], \quad (64)$$

$$G_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(L) = (-1)^{l_1 + l_3} \sqrt{(2l_1 + 1)(2l_2 + 1)(2l_3 + 1)(2l_4 + 1)} C_{l_1} C_{l_3} \delta_{L0} \delta_{l_1 l_2} \delta_{l_3 l_4} (2L + 1) C_{l_1} C_{l_2} [(-1)^{l_2 + l_3 + L} \delta_{l_1 l_3} \delta_{l_2 l_4} + \delta_{l_1 l_4} \delta_{l_2 l_3}], \quad (65)$$

with τ_{NL} and g_{NL} being parameters of second-order primordial non-Gaussianity (see discussion in next subsection for more information). Written in this form, $T_{l_3 l_4}^{l_1 l_2}(L)$ above is called the reduced trispectrum and contains all the physical information about non-Gaussian sources [1]. The full trispectrum, in general, contains additional terms based on permutations of l_i . We approximate the full trispectrum with the reduced trispectrum since we will be optimizing the estimator with weights to measure a single term of the full trispectrum. There are additional cross terms in our analysis that we then ignore. The approximation we implement here is already costly computationally and the lack of including extra cross terms associated with permutation, at most, causes our error bars on the non-Gaussian parameters to be overestimated. Furthermore, as we measure non-Gaussian parameters using the reduced trispectrum, we can directly compare our results with the previous predictions that also utilized the same approximation [1,35].

In above, the quantity $h_{l_1 l_2 l_3}$ is defined such that

$$h_{l_1 l_2 l_3} = \sqrt{\frac{(2l_1 + 1)(2l_2 + 1)(2l_3 + 1)}{4\pi}} \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & l_2 & l_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (66)$$

and

$$F_L(r_1, r_2) \equiv \frac{2}{\pi} \int k^2 dk P_\Phi(k) j_L(kr_1) j_L(kr_2). \quad (67)$$

Here, $P_\Phi(k) \propto k^{n_s - 4}$ is the primordial power spectrum of curvature perturbations, the $\alpha(r)$, $\beta(r)$ and $g_{\text{NL}}(k)$ are defined above and $j_l(kr)$ are the spherical bessel functions and r parameterizes the line of sight.

As with the bispectrum, we would like to figure out how to calculate power spectra that can be related to analytical expressions proportional to τ_{NL} and g_{NL} . To do this we begin with the same weighted maps defined in Eqs. (51) and (52) which leads to the spectra:

$$\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)} = (5/3)^2 \tau_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{J}_l^{ABA,B} + 2g_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{L}_l^{AB^2,B}, \quad (68)$$

$$\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)} = (5/3)^2 \tau_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{J}_l^{AB,AB} + 2g_{\text{NL}} \mathcal{L}_l^{AB,B^2}, \quad (69)$$

where the unique 2–2 and 3–1 power spectra are:

$$\mathcal{J}_l^{ABA,B} = \int r_1^2 dr_1 \int r_2^2 dr_2 \mathcal{J}_l^{ABA,B}(r_1, r_2); \quad (70)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_l^{AB^2,B} = \int r^2 dr \mathcal{L}_l^{AB^2,B}(r); \quad (71)$$

$$\mathcal{J}_l^{AB,AB} = \int r_1^2 dr_1 \int r_2^2 dr_2 \mathcal{J}_l^{AB,AB}(r_1, r_2); \quad (72)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_l^{AB,B^2} = \int r^2 dr \mathcal{L}_l^{AB,B^2}(r). \quad (73)$$

Here $\mathcal{J}_l^{ABA,B}(r_1, r_2)$, $\mathcal{L}_l^{AB^2,B}(r)$, $\mathcal{J}_l^{AB,AB}(r_1, r_2)$, and $\mathcal{L}_l^{AB,B^2}(r)$ are the angular power spectra of their respective maps. For example $\mathcal{L}_l^{AB^2,B}(r)$ is defined as:

$$\mathcal{L}_l^{AB^2,B}(r) = \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_m (AB^2)_{lm} B_{lm}^* \quad (74)$$

where $(AB^2)_{lm}$ and B_{lm}^* are defined analogously with Eqs. (57) and (58).

Once the kurtosis estimators have been extracted from temperature data, we can fit the two unknowns τ_{NL} and g_{NL} from the two estimators simultaneously by comparing them to their analytical expressions with $\tau_{\text{NL}} = g_{\text{NL}} = 1$ that turn out to be [36]:

$$\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)} = \frac{1}{(2l+1)} \sum_{l_i} \frac{1}{(2l+1)} \frac{T_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(l) \hat{T}_{l_3 l_4}^{l_1 l_2}(l)}{C_{l_1} C_{l_2} C_{l_3} C_{l_4}}; \quad (75)$$

$$\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)} = \frac{1}{(2l+1)} \sum_{l_i} \frac{1}{(2L+1)} \frac{T_{l_3 l_4}^{l_1 l_2}(L) \hat{T}_{l_3 l_4}^{l_1 l_2}(L)}{C_{l_1} C_{l_2} C_{l_3} C_l}. \quad (76)$$

where $\hat{T}_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(l)$ is the full bispectrum and $T_{l_1 l_2}^{l_3 l_4}(l)$ is the local model with $\tau_{\text{NL}} = g_{\text{NL}} = 1$ calculated from Eq. (64).

IV. FISHER BOUNDS

A. The ideal experiment

In order to determine the optimal error bars for these estimators we must properly calculate their signal-to-noise ratios. For the bispectrum, the signal-to-noise ratio takes on the simple form

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)_{(2,1)}^2 = \sum_l (2l+1) C_l^{(2,1)}, \quad (77)$$

where $C_l^{(2,1)}$ is defined above in Eq. (60).

For the trispectrum we must calculate the signal-to-noise for both $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$. In a best case scenario, the two estimators above are not correlated. In this case the signal-to-noise for each estimator is:

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)_{(2,2)}^2 = \sum_l (2l+1) \mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}; \quad (78)$$

$$\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)_{(3,1)}^2 = \sum_l (2l+1) \mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}. \quad (79)$$

Given the positive definite nature of $(S/N)^2$, the signal-to-noise increases as one computes to higher l values. In fact, for the trispectrum it has been shown that $(S/N)^2 \sim l_{\text{max}}^4$ where l_{max} represents the maximum l used in the analysis [1].

In addition to the estimators themselves being correlated, contributions to the terms proportional to τ_{NL} and g_{NL} come from different quadratic contributions in Fourier space. This further allows us to calculate the signal-to-noise for each of these terms in each estimator by setting the other to zero. For example, we can determine the optimal signal-to-noise for the τ_{NL} term from say the $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ estimator by setting $g_{\text{NL}} = 0$ embedded in Eq. (78).

Once the signal-to-noise is known, we immediately have a bound on the optimal error bars for our estimators through the inverse square root. For example, if we wanted to know the optimal 1σ error bar that can be placed on τ_{NL} from the $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ estimator, we can compute the Fisher bound as

$$\sigma(\tau_{\text{NL}}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{S}{N}\right)_{(2,2)}^2 |_{\tau_{\text{NL}}}}}, \quad (80)$$

with the restriction on $(S/N)_{(2,2)}^2$ to τ_{NL} by setting $g_{\text{NL}} = 0$ in this calculation.

B. The realistic experiment

In the above equations we assumed a “perfect” experiment with no noise or beam with a full sky. We now must

take in to account that real world experiments have an inherent noise associated with the detector and a beam to characterize its angular resolution. Both the noise and the beam reduce the signal-to-noise. Furthermore, the mask yields a cut sky that must be dealt with properly.

The noise is often reasonably approximated assuming a homogeneous spectrum calculating N_l from the following relation:

$$N_l = \sigma_{\text{pix}}^2 \Omega_{\text{pix}}, \quad (81)$$

where σ_{pix} is the rms noise per pixel and Ω_{pix} is the solid angle per pixel.

For the noise calculation taking into the inhomogeneous coverage of real world experiments and a cut sky N_l is to be calculated by:

$$N_l = \Omega_{\text{pix}} \int \frac{d^2 \hat{n}}{4\pi f_{\text{sky}}} \frac{\sigma_{\text{pix}}^2 M(\hat{n})}{N_{\text{obs}}(\hat{n})}, \quad (82)$$

where f_{sky} is the fraction of sky observed and N_{obs} is the number of observations per pixel [4].

In addition to noise, realistic detectors have limits to their resolving power. The resolution limits of the instrument, encoded in the parameter θ_{FWHM} which represents the full-width-half-max of the resolving power. We can map this information into harmonic space in the beam transfer function b_l

$$b_l = \exp(-l^2 \sigma_{\text{beam}}^2), \quad (83)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{beam}} = \frac{\theta_{\text{FWHM}}}{\sqrt{8 \ln(2)}}. \quad (84)$$

Beam transfer functions for the WMAP, Planck and EPIC experiments are plotted in Fig. 4. As one would expect, a larger θ_{FWHM} results in the suppression of information on larger scales.

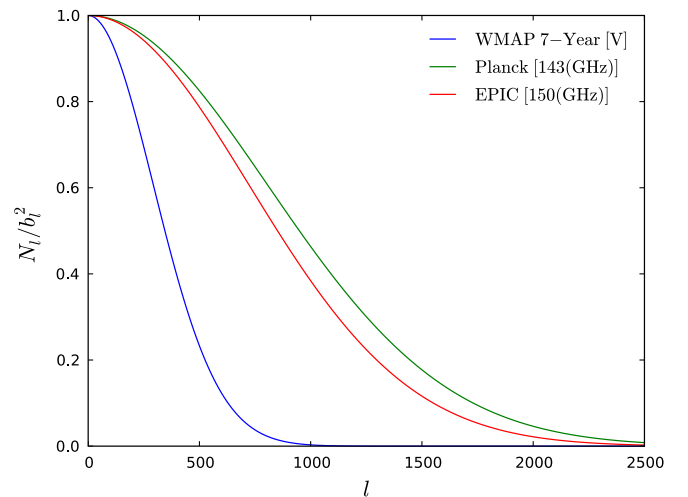


FIG. 4 (color online). Beam transfer functions. The frequency band used for each experiment is in brackets.

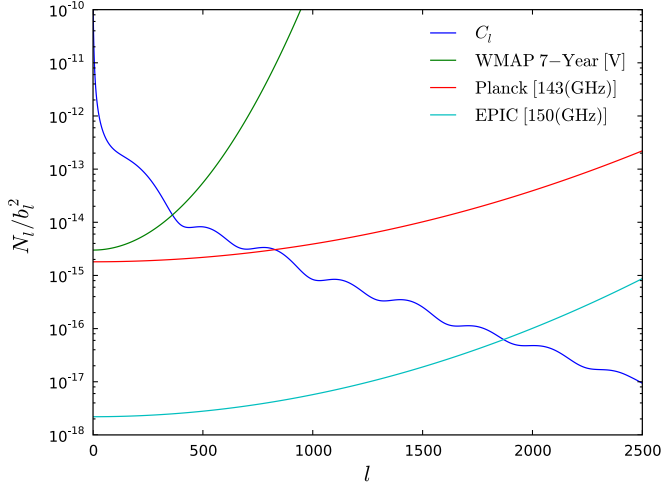


FIG. 5 (color online). Noise and b_l relation, N_l/b_l^2 , for each experiment plotted against C_l taken from WMAP 7-Year best-fit parameters. The frequency band used for each experiment is in brackets.

Working in spherical harmonic space, it is easy to correct our estimators $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ for the effects due to noise and the beam. All that must be done is to preform the transformation:

$$C_L \rightarrow C_l + \frac{N_l}{b_l^2}. \quad (85)$$

in the denominator of Eq. (75). As should be intuitively expected, a large amount of noise, or poor resolution will result in a smaller signal-to-noise. Therefore, how much the signal-to-noise is effected is related to the relationship between C_l and N_l/b_l^2 . For $N_l/b_l^2 \gg C_l$, the signal is greatly diminished. The relation between C_l and N_l/b_l^2 for the WMAP, Planck, and EPIC experiments is plotted in Fig. 5.

C. Mask and cut sky

To remove cut-sky effects using the traditional S_3 estimator, many linear terms must be computed that must be subtracted off [10,11,37]. Furthermore, the number of terms that must be computed grows for higher n -correlation functions. The difficulty arises because the cut-sky effects are compressed into a single number, making it difficult to subtract out.

One advantage of probing primordial non-Gaussianity with skewness power spectra is that we can use techniques pioneered by Hivon *et al.* to remove mask effects from the spectra [38]. This technique is relatively simple and works identically for correlation functions of arbitrary order.

When one uses realistic data, a mask $W(\mathbf{n})$ must be applied to an all sky map $M(\mathbf{n})$ to get rid of unwanted sources such as the galactic plane. This mask therefore affects the a_{lm} s derived from the all sky $A(r, \hat{\mathbf{n}})$ and $B(r, \hat{\mathbf{n}})$ defined in Eqs. (51) and (52) used in the bispectrum and

trispectrum analysis producing cut sky \tilde{a}_{lm} s:

$$\tilde{a}_{lm} = \int d\hat{\mathbf{n}} M(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) W(\mathbf{n}) Y_l^{m*}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}), \quad (86)$$

$$= \sum_{l'm'} a_{l'm'} \int d\hat{\mathbf{n}} Y_{l'}^{m'}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) W(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) Y_l^{m*}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}), \quad (87)$$

$$= \sum_{l'm'} a_{l'm'} K_{lm'l'm'}[W], \quad (88)$$

Here $a_{l'm'}$ is for the full sky, $M(\hat{\mathbf{n}})$ represents an arbitrary full sky map and $K_{\ell m' l' m'}[W]$ now contains all the cut-sky information.

Hivon *et al.* showed that a power spectrum based on such masked data can be corrected by:

$$\tilde{C}_l = \sum_{l'} M_{ll'} C_{l'}, \quad (89)$$

where $M_{ll'}$ is a matrix defined by

$$M_{ll'} = \frac{2l' + 1}{4\pi} \sum_{l''} (2l'' + 1) W_{l''} \begin{pmatrix} l & l' & l'' \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2. \quad (90)$$

Here W_l is the power spectrum of the mask $W(\mathbf{n})$. The power spectrum for the KQ75 mask is plotted in Fig. 6 and the corresponding $M_{ll'}$ is plotted in Fig. 7.

Furthermore, it has been shown that any power spectra of rank $C_l^{(p,q)}$ for any p and q can be corrected with the same method using $M_{ll'}$ [36]. Thus, we can correct the skewness and kurtosis power spectrum estimators for the bispectrum (rank $p = 2, q = 1$) and the trispectrum (rank $p = 2, q = 2$ and rank $p = 3, q = 1$) using this same technique. For example, a plot showing the effectiveness of this correction on the $K_l^{(2,2)}$ estimator is seen in Fig. 8.

This correction technique is unique to the power spectrum approach to detect non-Gaussianity because not all l

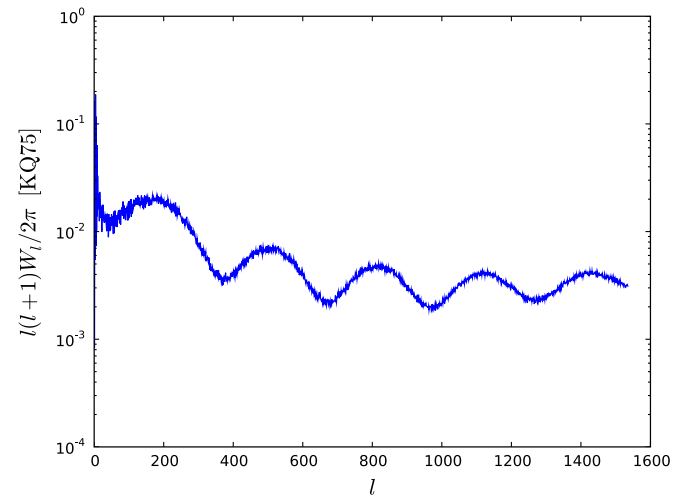


FIG. 6 (color online). The power spectrum W_l of the KQ75 mask.

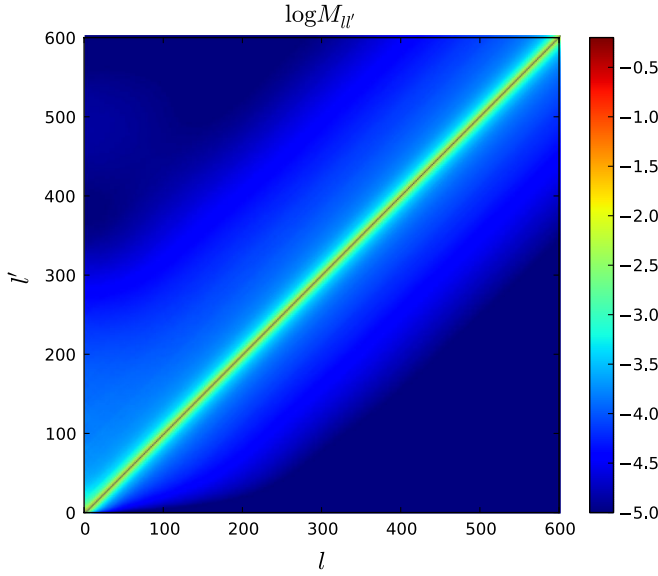


FIG. 7 (color online). The matrix $M_{ll'}$ used for correcting the cut sky taken from the KQ75 mask.

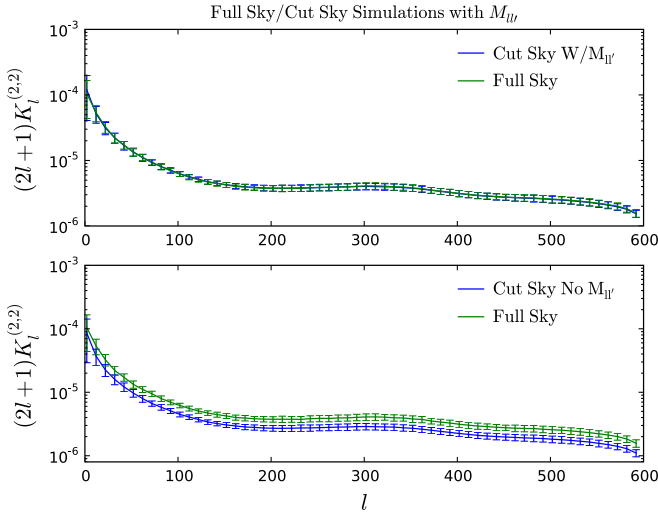


FIG. 8 (color online). On the bottom we see the results of 250 full sky Gaussian simulations of $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ with the cut-sky results without correcting with $M_{ll'}$. On the top we see the same except the cut sky has received the proper correction.

dependent effects of the mask have collapsed into a single number. Therefore, the ability to correct for the mask in this approach is much easier and more efficient than calculating linear terms needed to correct for masking effects in for the traditional skewness statistic S_3 .

V. FISHER ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

We now calculate the signal-to-noise for each of our estimators in order to give reasonable expectations for non-Gaussianity detection from upcoming experiments using skewness and kurtosis power spectra. These constraints

TABLE I. Parameters used to calculate the simulated noise and beam transfer functions for the Planck and EPIC experiment [39,40]. We obtained WMAP noise and beam function from publicly available data.

Mission	θ_{FWHM}	σ_{pix}	Ω_{pix}	Frequency
Planck	7.1'	2.2×10^{-6}	0.0349	143 (GHz)
EPIC	5.0'	8×10^{-9}	0.002	150 (GHz)

assume only temperature data from one frequency band per experiment is used. For the WMAP 7-Year analysis we use the V frequency band and for Planck and EPIC we use the 143 and 150 GHz frequency bands, respectively. The noise and beam for the WMAP 7-Year V band was taken from the WMAP team and those for Planck and EPIC were computed using the values in Table I as described in Sec. IV B.

It should be noted that combining different frequency bands and adding polarization can further reduce the expected error. For example, with the recent WMAP 7-year findings error bars on f_{NL} from one frequency band, V or W, is ± 24 but the full temperature analysis combining V + W bands gives a reduced error bar of ± 21 . (About a 12.5% improvement over one temperature frequency band alone.)

For each of these calculations C_l , $\alpha(r)$, $\beta(r)$ and $F_L(r_1, r_2)$ were calculated from Eq. (49) and (67) using a modified version of CAMB based on the WMAP 7-Year best-fit cosmological parameter values. The quantities C_l , $\alpha(r)$ and $\beta(r)$ are plotted in Fig. 3.

For the bispectrum we can form one skewness power spectrum estimator $C_l^{(2,1)}$ which places bounds on the first-order non-Gaussian parameter f_{NL} . To calculate the signal-to-noise, we compute Eq. (78) from Eq. (60) summing all l up to some l_{max} between $2 < l < 1000$. After calculating this signal-to-noise we calculate the l_{max} dependent error bars from the Fisher matrix in Eq. (80).

The results of this calculation are seen in Fig. 9 and shown in Table II. This calculation is done for the case of no noise nor beam, as well as with the noise and beam for the experiments WMAP 7-Year, Planck, and EPIC. As, expected, the error bars drop for higher l_{max} until one reaches the limits of detection for each experiment. For the case with no noise, the error bars fall off as $\sim 1/\sqrt{f_{\text{NL}} l^2}$.

For the trispectrum we can form two skewness power spectrum estimators, $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$. For primordial non-Gaussianity detection that together place bounds on the second-order non-Gaussian parameters τ_{NL} and g_{NL} . The first of these, $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$, is computed from Eq. (75). After this calculation, the signal-to-noise is computed from Eq. (78) summing all l up to some l_{max} between $2 < l < 1000$ for all l except the *diagonal* one. (The diagonal being the l in parenthesis of $T_{l_3 l_4}^{l_1 l_2}(l)$.) It was confirmed, as was previously reported [1], that nearly all the signal-to-noise can be calculated only summing up the l in the diagonal of

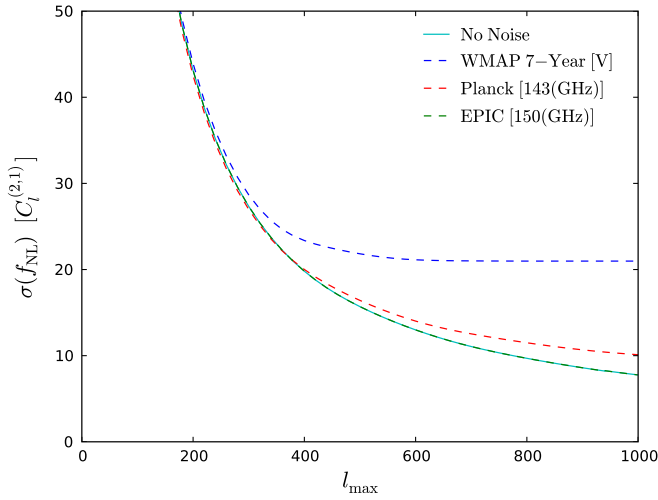


FIG. 9 (color online). Fisher bounds on f_{NL} for the $C_l^{(2,1)}$ estimator of the bispectrum. This is calculated from a model with $f_{\text{NL}} = 1$. The frequency band used for each experiment is in brackets.

the trispectrum up to $l = 10$, saving a tremendous amount of computational time. In this analysis, however, we summed up the diagonal in both trispectrum estimators to $l = 20$ so as to be more conservative. The error bars on τ_{NL} and g_{NL} from this estimator are then computed from equation Eq. (80). Results from this estimator for τ_{NL} are seen in Fig. 10. As with the $C_l^{(2,1)}$ estimator above, we show the 1σ bound for the case without noise and beam as well as for the WMAP 7-Year, Planck, and EPIC experiments. For the case of no noise or beam, the error bars for this estimator fall off as $\sim 1/\sqrt{\tau_{\text{NL}} l^4}$.

Also plotted in the figure is the amplitude A_{NL} assuming $f_{\text{NL}} = 32$, the WMAP 7-year best-fit value. Therefore, if $f_{\text{NL}} = 32$ then we must have $A_{\text{NL}} > 1$ for Planck to be able to have a detection of τ_{NL} . However, even if $A_{\text{NL}} \sim 1$, EPIC should be able to detect τ_{NL} , especially since EPIC will be able to use data much past $l_{\text{max}} = 1000$.

TABLE II. The minimum error bars at 1σ for f_{NL} , τ_{NL} , and g_{NL} , using both $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ estimators, for the Planck and EPIC experiments up to $l_{\text{max}} = 2000$. As stated in text, this assumes only one temperature frequency band is used in the analysis.

l_{max}	500	1000	1500	2000
f_{NL} Planck	16	10	8	8
EPIC	15	7.5	5	3
τ_{NL} Planck	4350	1640	1550	1550
EPIC	3700	920	400	225
g_{NL} Planck	1.6×10^5	1.4×10^5	1.3×10^5	1.3×10^5
EPIC	1.5×10^5	1.1×10^5	8.4×10^4	6.0×10^4
A_{NL} Planck	3.0	1.1	1.0	1.0
EPIC	2.5	0.6	0.3	0.15

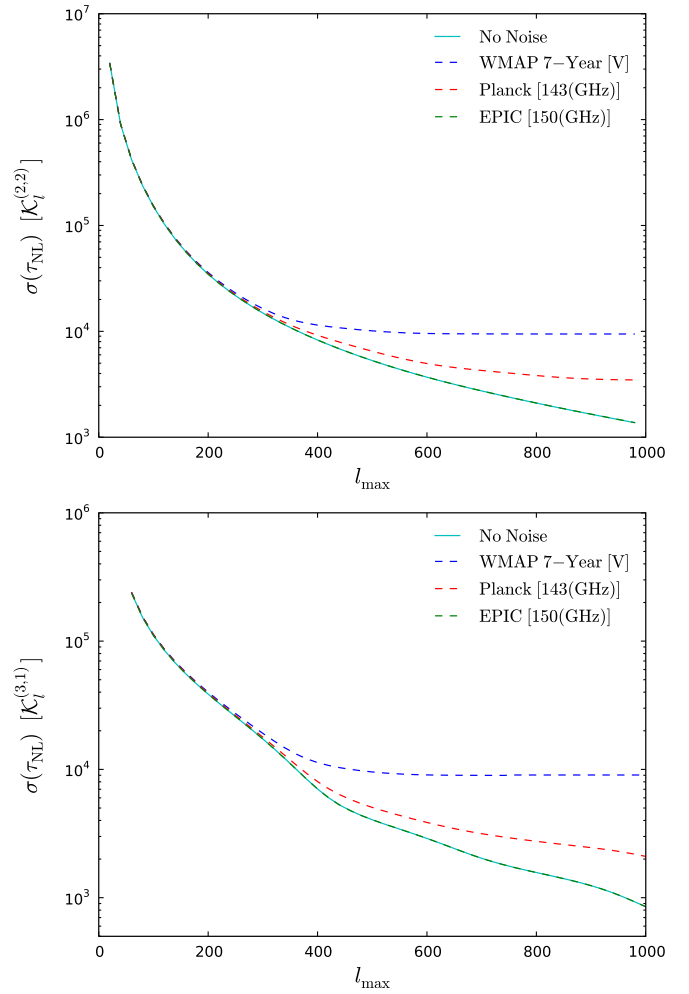


FIG. 10 (color online). On top we have Fisher bounds on τ_{NL} for the $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ estimator and on bottom for $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$. The frequency band used for each experiment is in brackets.

We also compute error bars for τ_{NL} from our second skewness power spectrum estimator for the trispectrum $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ by first calculating the signal-to-noise from Eq. (76) and (79) then solving for $\sigma(\tau_{\text{NL}})$ from the fisher matrix (80). Results for this calculation are plotted in Fig. 10. Along with the 1σ error bars for each experiment, is the amplitude A_{NL} assuming $f_{\text{NL}} = 50$. The purpose of setting the amplitude to this value is to demonstrate that if f_{NL} is large enough, models with $A_{\text{NL}} < 1$ may be able to be tested by upcoming experiments, especially EPIC.

In addition to τ_{NL} , bounds can be put on g_{NL} from the two before mentioned four-point estimators. To do this, we calculate the estimators from Eq. (78) and (79) setting $\tau_{\text{NL}} = 0$ and $g_{\text{NL}} = 1$. From here, we calculate the signal-to-noise from Eq. (78) and (79) whereupon we compute Fisher bounds from Eq. (80). The results are seen in Fig. 11.

Combining the two estimators $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ gives the minimum error bars for τ_{NL} and g_{NL} seen in Table II as

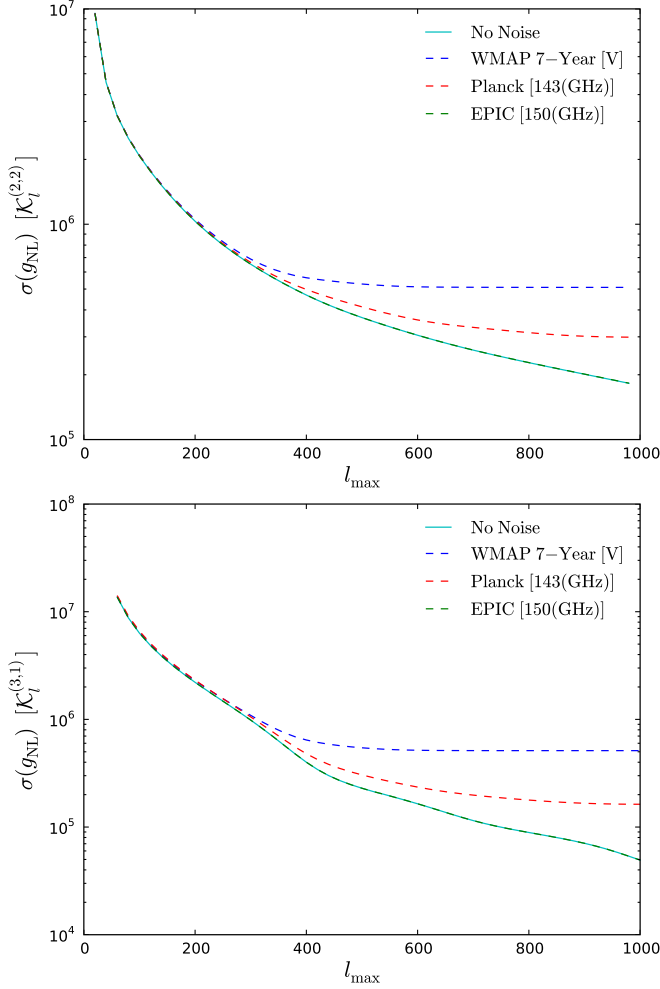


FIG. 11 (color online). Top: Fisher bounds on g_{NL} for the $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ estimator. Bottom: Fisher bounds on g_{NL} for the $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ estimator. The frequency band used for each experiment is in brackets.

well as Fig. 12. These are comparable to those of [1,35] who calculated Fisher bounds assuming only cosmic variance limited sky. They did not use the power skewness estimator, however, their estimator is equivalent in the limit of homogeneous noise [4]. Kogo and Komastu [1] found a higher signal-to-noise than did Okamoto and Hu [35]. This paper finds a signal-to-noise in between these values.

From this table we see that τ_{NL} can be detected at 95% confidence level by Planck if $\tau_{\text{NL}} > 3000$ and EPIC for $\tau_{\text{NL}} > 600$. If $f_{\text{NL}} = 32$ in the bispectrum, this equivalently means τ_{NL} can be detected if $A_{\text{NL}} > 2$ and $A_{\text{NL}} > 0.4$ respectively, again alluding to the fact that EPIC will be able to test some inflationary models with $A_{\text{NL}} < 1$.

Furthermore, as can be seen in Fig. 13, for large enough A_{NL} , the trispectrum is more sensitive to non-Gaussianity, even for Planck. This may turn out to be very important as some models predict $A_{\text{NL}} > 1$. It is therefore imperative that Planck examines the trispectrum for non-Gaussianity

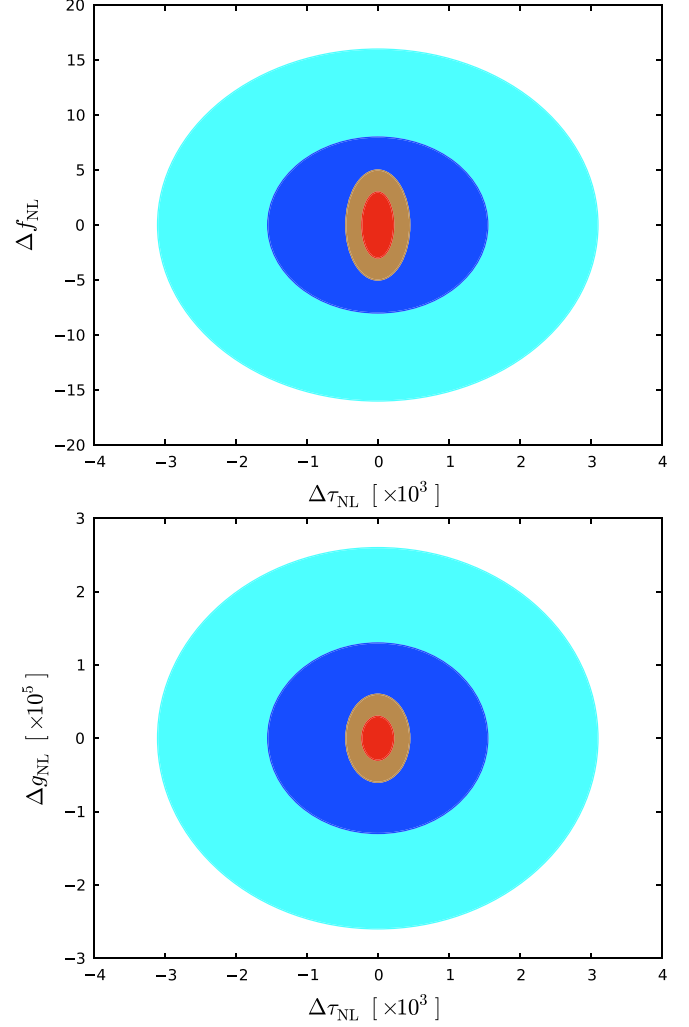


FIG. 12 (color online). Fisher confidence intervals for f_{NL} , g_{NL} , and τ_{NL} . The dark and light blue represent the 68% and 95% intervals, respectively, for Planck. The red and orange represent the 68% and 95% intervals, respectively, for EPIC.

as it may turn out to be more likely to get a detection there than in the bispectrum.

Some models predict an undetectable amount of non-Gaussianity in the bispectrum (For example, $f_{\text{NL}} \sim 1$) with a large amount of non-Gaussianity in the trispectrum. These plots let us know just how *big* A_{NL} must be in order for a detection of non-Gaussianity to be made in the trispectrum for such scenarios.

From these plots we see, for $f_{\text{NL}} = 1$, the trispectrum becomes more sensitive to non-Gaussianity than the bispectrum at $l = 1450, 830$, and 500 for $A_{\text{NL}} = 50, 90$, and 120 , respectively. For $f_{\text{NL}} = 32$, the trispectrum has more sensitivity at $l = 2350, 1150$, and 450 for $A_{\text{NL}} = 1, 3$, and 10 , respectively, and for $f_{\text{NL}} = 50$ we have more sensitivity at $l = 1500, 750$, and 300 for $A_{\text{NL}} = 1, 3$, and 10 , respectively.

Figure 14 shows $(A_{\text{NL}} - 1)/\Delta A_{\text{NL}}$ for both Planck and EPIC. In this plot it is clear that both Planck and EPIC are

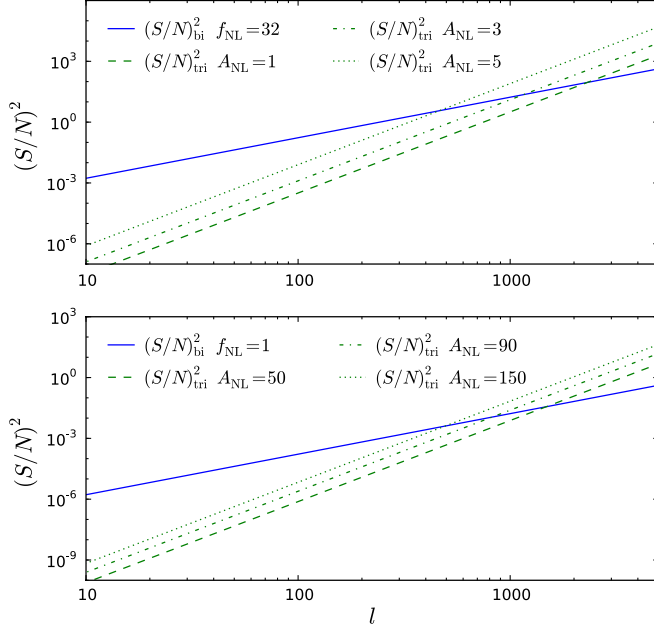


FIG. 13 (color online). Comparison of the sensitivity of both the bispectrum and the trispectrum to non-Gaussianity assuming different values of f_{NL} and A_{NL} .

in a position to rule out single-field inflation by determining $A_{\text{NL}} \neq 1$. Large sections of the parameter space, consistent with current measurements, will rule out A_{NL} equal to unity by $>5\sigma$.

Note from Table II that the expected bound on g_{NL} is about 2 orders of magnitude weaker than that on τ_{NL} , even though both parameters are suppressed by a power spectrum cubed in (21). One reason is that the k dependent shape factor multiplying τ_{NL} in (21) diverges whenever $k_{ij} \rightarrow 0$, while the factor multiplying g_{NL} only diverges when one of the $k_i \rightarrow 0$ (and in this case the same applies for τ_{NL} as well).

VI. PRIOR ANALYSIS USING THESE ESTIMATORS

These skewness and kurtosis power spectrum estimators have recently been employed to constrain non-Gaussianity in the WMAP 5-year data. Using the bispectrum, Smidt *et al.* (2009) found that $-36.4 < f_{\text{NL}} < 58.4$ at 95% confidence [5]. This bound puts the 1σ error bars at ± 23.5 , within about 12% of the optimal Fisher bound.

The analysis for the trispectrum is more difficult and we therefore elaborate about it here. Our recipe for analysis is

- (1) We calculate $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ in Eq. (75) and (76) for τ_{NL} and $g_{\text{NL}} = 1$.
- (2) We extract $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ directly from WMAP 5-year data.
- (3) We perform the extraction of $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ from 250 Gaussian maps, allowing us to determine error bars and the Gaussian piece of each estimator.

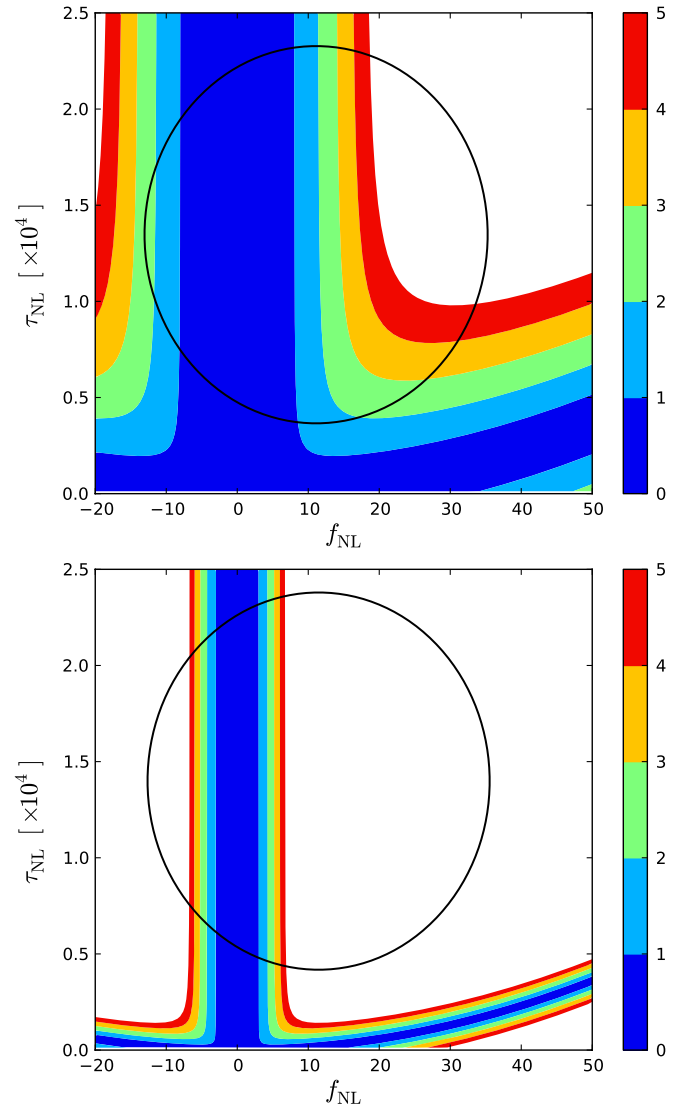


FIG. 14 (color online). The top plot shows $(A_{\text{NL}} - 1)/\Delta A_{\text{NL}}$ for Planck and the bottom for EPIC. The color bands show to how many sigma A_{NL} would differ from unity for possible best-fit values for Planck and EPIC. If Planck or EPIC find best-fit f_{NL} and τ_{NL} values anywhere in the white region, single-field inflation will be ruled out by $>5\sigma$. The black ellipse marks the 68% confidence region for the Smidt *et al.* (2009) best-fit f_{NL} and Smidt *et al.* (2010) best-fit τ_{NL} values, respectively [5].

- (4) We subtract off the Gaussian contribution to these estimators to ensure we are fitting to the non-Gaussian contribution.
- (5) We fit the two unknowns τ_{NL} and g_{NL} from data using the two equations simultaneously. The amplitudes the theoretical curves must be scaled by gives the values for τ_{NL} and g_{NL} .
- (6) We constrain A_{NL} by comparing τ_{NL} from the trispectrum with $(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ coming from the bispectrum.

This recipe is described in greater detail below:

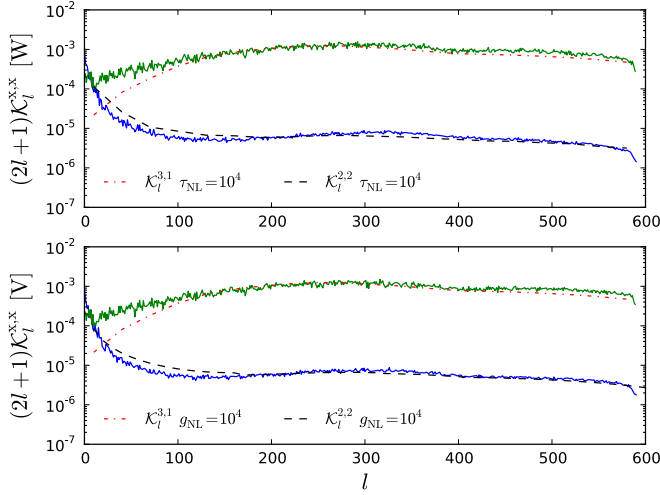


FIG. 15 (color online). The top plot shows the $\mathcal{K}_l^{3,1}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{2,2}$ estimators, shown in green and blue, respectively, taken from data for the W band. The same estimators for the V band are shown on the bottom. Additionally on the top the theoretical contributions for $\mathcal{K}_l^{2,2}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{3,1}$ proportional to τ_{NL} are shown with the bottom showing those proportional to g_{NL} . The Gaussian contributions were not removed from these plots.

First we calculate $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ theoretically using equations Eqs. (64)–(68), (76), and (77) for a model with τ_{NL} and $g_{\text{NL}} = 1$. To obtain C_l we use CAMB [41,42] with the WMAP 5-year best-fit parameters and use the beam transfer functions from the WMAP team. We then obtain the connected piece using a modified version of the CMBFAST code [43,44]. Plots of many of the quantities used for these calculations can be found in Ref. [5].

Plots of $\mathcal{K}_l^{(2,2)}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{(3,1)}$ are shown in Fig. 15. These curves will be compared with estimators derived from data to determine the magnitude of each statistic. Since we have two estimators, we can solve for the two unknowns τ_{NL} and g_{NL} by fitting both estimators simultaneously.

To calculate¹ the estimators from data, used in the left-hand side of Eqs. (75) and (76), we use both the raw and foreground-cleaned WMAP 5-Year Stokes I maps for V- and W-bands masked with the KQ75 mask [45]. We use the Healpix library to analyze the maps. For this analysis we only considered data out to $l_{\text{max}} = 600$. We correct for the KQ75 mask using a matrix $M_{ll'}$, based on the power spectrum of the mask, as described above.

Figure 15 shows the results for $\mathcal{K}_l^{3,1}$ and $\mathcal{K}_l^{2,2}$ for the V and W frequency bands extracted from the raw WMAP 5-Year maps. In order to do proper statistics for our data fitting we create 250 simulated Gaussian maps of each frequency band with $n_{\text{side}} = 512$. To obtain Gaussian maps we run the *synfast* routine of Healpix with an in-file representing the WMAP 5-year best-fit CMB anisot-

¹See Smidt *et al.* 2009 for a similar calculation using the bispectrum for more details [5].

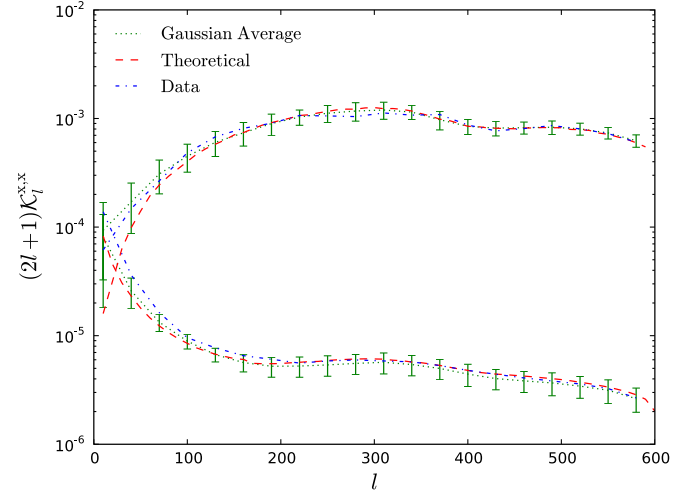


FIG. 16 (color online). The relation between the full estimators coming from data versus the Gaussian contributions. The green curve show the Gaussian contributions coming from averaging the estimators from the Gaussian maps. The red curve is the theoretical Gaussian piece calculated using the WMAP-5 best-fit cosmology power spectrum. The error bars show 2 standard deviations from the Gaussian curves. These curves are from W band data.

ropy power spectrum and generate maps with information out to $l = 600$. We then use *anafast*, without employing an iteration scheme, masking with the KQ75 mask, to produce a_{lm} 's for the Gaussian maps out to $l = 600$. Obtaining estimators from these Gaussian maps allows us to uncover the Gaussian contribution to each estimator in addition to providing us information needed to calculate the error bars on our results.

This whole process is computationally intensive. To calculate all theoretical estimators took nearly 8000 CPU hours. Furthermore, all the estimators from Gaussian and data maps combined took an additional 1600 CPU hours.

As previously discussed, the full trispectrum can be decomposed into both a Gaussian and non-Gaussian or connected piece. To make a measurement of non-Gaussianity we subtract off the Gaussian piece from the full trispectrum. Figure shows the relationship between the full trispectrum and the Gaussian piece. In this plot the Gaussian piece was calculated in two different ways as a sanity check. First, the Gaussian maps were averaged over. Second, the Gaussian piece of each estimator is calculated theoretically using Eq. (65).

After obtaining the theory, data and simulated curves we use the best fitting procedure described in [5] where we minimize χ^2 to fit τ_{NL} and g_{NL} simultaneously. Our results are listed in Table III. We see that g_{NL} and τ_{NL} are consistent with zero with 95% confidence level ranges $-7.4 < g_{\text{NL}}/10^5 < 8.2$ and $-0.6 < \tau_{\text{NL}}/10^4 < 3.3$ for V + W-band in foreground-cleaned maps. The 95% confidence intervals of g_{NL} versus τ_{NL} are plotted in Fig. 17 for each band. For a V band analysis alone, the 68% confidence

TABLE III. Results for each frequency band to 1σ . Values for g_{NL} , τ_{NL} , and A_{NL} on the top are for raw maps. The values on the bottom are for foreground clean maps. A_{NL} is estimated assuming $f_{\text{NL}} = 32 \pm 21$ from the WMAP-7 analysis and the tabulated 1σ uncertainty is based on an analytical error propagation.

Band	W	V	V + W
g_{NL}	$4.7 \times 10^4 \pm 5.3 \times 10^5$	$4.6 \times 10^4 \pm 5.9 \times 10^5$	$4.7 \times 10^4 \pm 3.9 \times 10^5$
τ_{NL}	$(1.63 \pm 1.27) \times 10^4$	$(1.68 \pm 1.31) \times 10^4$	$(1.64 \pm 0.98) \times 10^4$
A_{NL}	7.4 ± 7.3	6.3 ± 6.0	11.1 ± 7.3
FC			
g_{NL}	$4.2 \times 10^4 \pm 5.3 \times 10^5$	$4.1 \times 10^4 \pm 5.9 \times 10^5$	$4.2 \times 10^4 \pm 3.9 \times 10^5$
τ_{NL}	$(1.32 \pm 1.27) \times 10^4$	$(1.39 \pm 1.31) \times 10^4$	$(1.35 \pm 0.98) \times 10^4$
A_{NL}	6.0 ± 6.7	5.2 ± 5.7	9.2 ± 6.1

intervals are $\tau_{\text{NL}} = (1.39 \pm 1.31) \times 10^4$ and $g_{\text{NL}} = 4.6 \times 10^4 \pm 5.9 \times 10^5$. These error bars are within $\sim 40\%$ and $\sim 20\%$ of the optimal Fisher values discussed above comparing with WMAP 7-year level noise for τ_{NL} and g_{NL} respectively.

Combining $f_{\text{NL}} = 11 \pm 24$ from Ref. [5] and $\tau_{\text{NL}} = (1.35 \pm 0.98) \times 10^4$ from our skewness analysis we get $-649 < A_{\text{NL}} < 805$ at 95% confidence. If instead we had assumed $f_{\text{NL}} = 32 \pm 21$ from WMAP-7 analysis [4] and same τ_{NL} reported here we find $-3 < A_{\text{NL}} < 21.4$ at 95% confidence. The difference of the two estimates is a reflection on the central value of f_{NL} since $A_{\text{NL}} = \tau_{\text{NL}}/(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ and therefore a smaller f_{NL} results in a larger uncertainty in A_{NL} . This behavior is also seen in Fig. 14.

No measurements involving WMAP 7-year data have been preformed using these estimators. It is our opinion that the results for WMAP 7-year data will not be much

different than for the WMAP 5-year data, just as the optimal results using the traditional skewness statistic S_3 do not differ significantly between these two data sets [3,4].

Planck, on the other hand, is in a position to make significant improvements in the measurement of non-Gaussianity using these estimators. Since Planck is taking data, we encourage any plans to measure f_{NL} , g_{NL} and τ_{NL} using the skewness and kurtosis spectrum statistics that we have proposed. In addition to ruling out the standard single-field slow-roll inflation model with a detection of non-Gaussianity in general, Planck is in a position to possibly rule out all single-field models with a measurement of $A_{\text{NL}} \neq 1$.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we discussed the skewness and kurtosis power spectrum approach to probing primordial non-Gaussianity. We outlined the expected constraints these techniques will place using future experimental data. These constraints were calculated by computing the signal-to-noise for each estimator, properly taking into account the noise and beam of each experiment. Optimal error bars for f_{NL} , g_{NL} and τ_{NL} are listed as a function of l_{max} .

It was argued that the skewness and kurtosis power spectrum approach to measure non-Gaussianity has several advantages. These advantages include the ability to separate foregrounds and other secondary non-Gaussian signals, the ability to measure the scale dependence of each statistic and an advantage that the cut sky can be corrected from a matrix $M_{ll'}$ without needing to compute extra linear terms.

The physical significance of each non-Gaussian statistic is discussed. In the bispectrum, different non-Gaussian triangle configurations in Fourier space contributing to f_{NL} are related to different underlying physics. By adding a local measurement of the trispectrum, a new statistic $A_{\text{NL}} = \tau_{\text{NL}}/(6f_{\text{NL}}/5)^2$ will be a powerful probe to distinguish between multifield models. Single-field models can be ruled out in general if $A_{\text{NL}} \neq 1$ and we discussed how

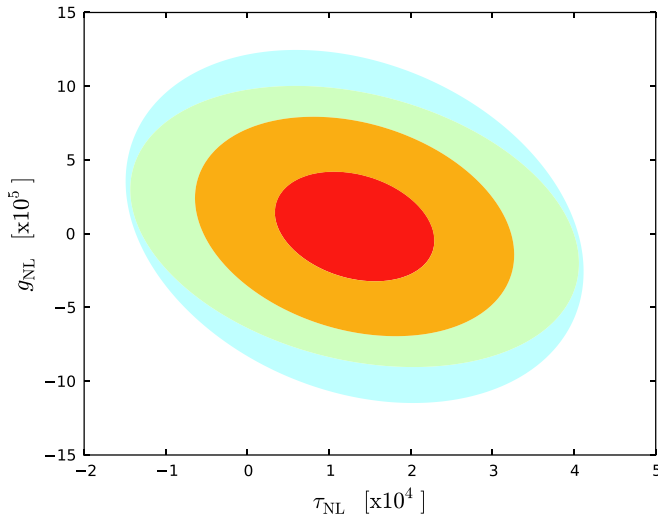


FIG. 17 (color online). The 95% confidence levels for g_{NL} versus τ_{NL} . The red and orange represent the 68% and 95% intervals, respectively, for the combined V + W analysis. The light blue regions represent the 95% confidence intervals for the V band analysis, and the light green regions are for the W band.

this may be a real possibility with Planck or EPIC. Furthermore, for A_{NL} large enough, the trispectrum becomes a better probe for non-Gaussianity than the bispectrum for analysis utilizing information on very small scales. The parameter g_{NL} will be the hardest to constrain. A constraint on this parameter will uncover information on self-interactions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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